

I/WE CLAIM:

1. A method for viewing inspection reports for an associated lifting device, the
5 method comprising:
 - providing an associated periodic inspection of the associated lifting device by an associated inspector;
 - providing at least a first inspection report generated in response to the associated inspection;
 - 10 providing a computer operatively communicated to an associated computer network;
 - operatively storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report on the computer, wherein the at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report is viewable over the associated computer network; and,
 - 15 implementing a security means on the computer for use in selectively allowing an associated user-entity to view the at least a first portion of at least a first inspection report over the associated computer network.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the associated lifting device has an associated
20 lifting strap, and an associated lifting chain.
3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of operatively storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report on the computer includes:
 - operatively storing an inventory list of the at least a first portion of the at least a
25 first inspection report on the computer, wherein the inventory list is viewable over the computer network.
4. The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of operatively storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report on the computer includes:

operatively storing a summary list of the at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report on the computer, wherein the summary list is viewable over the computer network.

5 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of operatively storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report on the computer, includes:

 storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report in a database, wherein the database is operatively accessible by the computer.

10 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report in a database, wherein the database is operatively accessible by the computer, includes:

 storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report in a database, wherein the database is operatively stored on the computer.

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 7. The method of Claim 5, wherein after the step of storing at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report in a database, wherein the database is operatively accessible by the computer, the step further comprising:

 selectively sorting the database, wherein the sorted at least a first portion of the at least a first inspection report is selectively viewable over the computer network.

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 8. The method of Claim 7; wherein the step of providing at least a first inspection report generated in response to the associated inspection, includes:

 providing a plurality of inspection reports generated in response to a plurality of associated inspections, and;

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 wherein the step of selectively sorting the database, includes:

 selectively sorting the database with respect to the history of the plurality of inspection reports, wherein the sorted at least a first portion of the plurality of inspection reports is selectively viewable over the computer network.

9. A method for periodically testing, and viewing the testing report, for an associated lifting strap, the steps comprising:

providing an associated lifting strap testing device for testing the lifting capacity
5 of the associated lifting strap, the associated testing device including associated software for use in processing test data;

providing a testing person qualified to operate the associated testing device;

performing the lifting capacity test on the associated lifting strap;

generating a test report responsive to an output from the associated testing device;

10 providing a computer operatively communicated to an associated computer network; and,

storing at least a first portion of the electronic test report on the computer,
wherein the at least a first portion of the test report is viewable over the associated computer network.

15 10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of generating a test report responsive to an output from the associated testing device, includes:

generating an electronic test report responsive to an output from the associated testing device.

20 11. A method of tracking the testing history for a plurality of associated lifting devices, the steps comprising:

providing a plurality of associated lifting devices for use by an associated user-entity;

25 periodically individually testing the plurality of associated lifting devices;

generating a testing report responsive to each individual test;

providing a computer operatively communicated to an associated computer network; and,

storing the testing reports on the computer, wherein the plurality of testing reports are selectively viewable by the user-entity.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of providing a plurality of associated
5 lifting devices includes:

providing a plurality of associated lifting straps for use by an associated user-entity.

13. The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of periodically individually testing the
10 plurality of associated lifting devices, includes:

periodically testing the current lifting capacity of the plurality of associated lifting devices.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein before the step of periodically testing the
15 current lifting capacity of the plurality of associated lifting devices, the step further comprising:
providing an associated lifting capacity testing apparatus having associated software that electronically stores testing information responsive to the testing.

15. The method of Claim 12, wherein the step of providing a computer operatively
20 communicated to an associated computer network, includes:
providing a microprocessor-based computer operatively communicated to the internet.

16. The method of Claim 11, the step further comprising:
25 sorting the testing reports with respect to the testing date.